

DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS  
ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMO SERIES

NOTICE 02-07

ISSUE DATE: 03/18/2002  
DISPOSAL DATE: 04/01/03

RE: ANNOUNCING RELEASE  
OF REPORT, "WHAT  
EMPLOYERS AND W2 JOB  
EXPERTS THINK ABOUT  
RETENTION AND  
ADVANCEMENT BARRIERS  
AND SERVICES"

To: County Department of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Tribal Chairpersons/Human Services Facilitators  
W-2 Agency Directors  
Workforce Development Board Directors  
Job Center Managers/Coordinators

From: Mary C. Rowin /s/  
Deputy Division Administrator

Attached for your information and use is the Executive Summary of a new report, "What Employers and W-2 Job Experts Think About Retention and Advancement Barriers and Services", prepared by Larry Martin, Ph.D., and Mary Alfred, Ph.D., both of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The Department of Workforce Development commissioned Drs. Martin and Alfred to conduct this research.

As part of the research, Drs. Martin and Alfred conducted statewide surveys of selected W-2 staff and employers of low-income workers. The survey of W-2 agency staff elicited their perceptions of working W-2 participants in case management and the services offered by the W-2 agencies. The survey of employers dealt with the retention and advancement issues of the broader population of low-income workers with family responsibilities (referred to as LIWWFRs), W-2 services to those employers, and the employer services to the LIWWFRs.

The report offers recommendations based on an analysis of these perceptions of W-2 agency staff and employers. It was done with an eye toward identifying the most effective strategies that W-2 agencies and employers may use to address retention and advancement among W-2 participants and the broader population of LIWWFRs.

The full report can be accessed via the Department's website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/desw2/>.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT: Area Administrators

Attachment